

News Release



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U.S. Labor Department's MSHA issues increased funding for state health and safety training grants *Training funds total more than \$8.2 million in fiscal year 2008*

ARLINGTON, Va. – The U.S. Department of Labor's Mine Safety and Health Administration (MSHA) has announced more than \$8.2 million in health and safety training grants for fiscal year 2008, up from last year's allocation of \$7.9 million.

"These grants are part of MSHA's ongoing commitment to advance miner safety and health through funding training programs," said Richard E. Stickler, acting assistant secretary of labor for mine safety and health. "The mining community as a whole will benefit from enhanced skills and competency levels of our nation's miners."

Grantees will use the funds to provide federally mandated training to miners. The grants cover training and retraining of miners working at surface and underground coal and metal and nonmetal mines, including miners engaged in shell dredging or employed at surface stone, sand and gravel mining operations.

Training grant funds are being awarded to 49 states and the Navajo Nation. States applied for the grants, which are administered by state mine inspectors' offices, state departments of labor, and state-supported colleges and universities. Each recipient tailors the program to its miners' individual needs and provides technical assistance. The grants are given to states upon receipt and approval of their applications.

The state grant program was authorized by the Coal Mine Safety and Health Act of 1969. States first received funding in 1971 to provide health and safety training to miners.

Editor's Note: A state-by-state listing of allocations follows this news release.

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Fiscal Year 2008 MSHA Health and Safety Training Grants

STATE	AMOUNT AWARDED
ALABAMA	\$192,643
ALASKA	\$49,336
ARIZONA	\$277,414
ARKANSAS	\$95,921
CALIFORNIA	\$326,981
COLORADO	\$203,175
CONNECTICUT	\$42,878
DELAWARE	\$3,916
FLORIDA	\$165,615
GEORGIA	\$186,214
IDAHO	\$89,396
ILLINOIS	\$212,389
INDIANA	\$185,046
IOWA	\$111,582
KANSAS	\$80,212
KENTUCKY	\$606,088
LOUISIANA	\$78,837
MAINE	\$53,804
MARYLAND	\$55,855
MASSACHUSETTS	\$63,395
MICHIGAN	\$208,065
MINNESOTA	\$264,446
MISSISSIPPI	\$58,817
MISSOURI	\$199,835
MONTANA	\$132,736
NAVAJO NATION	\$25,917
NEBRASKA	\$64,333
NEVADA	\$227,075
NEW HAMPSHIRE	\$39,285
NEW JERSEY	\$48,240
NEW MEXICO	\$142,242
NEW YORK	\$249,987
NORTH CAROLINA	\$147,870
NORTH DAKOTA	\$56,532
OHIO	\$253,827
OKLAHOMA	\$104,095
OREGON	\$102,095
PENNSYLVANIA	\$511,145
PUERTO RICO	\$53,097
RHODE ISLAND	\$9,357
SOUTH CAROLINA	\$63,569
SOUTH DAKOTA	\$57,275
TENNESSEE	\$135,057
TEXAS	\$414,954

UTAH	\$166,113
VERMONT	\$68,060
VIRGINIA	\$259,609
WASHINGTON	\$143,322
WEST VIRGINIA	\$543,898
WISCONSIN	\$185,642
WYOMING	\$186,808
Totals	\$8,204,000